



The Sustainable Pioneer

http://www.nrel.gov/sustainable_nrel/

April/May 2004

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South Table
Mountain Mesa

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New Trails Coming to South Table Mountain Mesa

South Table Mountain mesa is a beautiful place to walk, run, bike, or just take in the scenery. However, the existing trails can sometimes be a bit confusing to navigate. Problem solved. Jefferson County Open Space workers are currently constructing a new multiple-use trail system that will originate about 1000 feet east of the NREL Visitor Center and will eventually merge into a park planned for development to the south of the NREL facilities. The natural-surface path will provide access to the mesa top for hikers, mountain bike enthusiasts, and equestrians. Motorized traffic will not be permitted.

The new trail is designed to connect a series of trails that currently meander across the South Table Mountain mesa top, and is being constructed on the conservation easement to the east of the Visitor Center. The project eventually will include renovation of existing trails, re-vegetation and rehabilitation of others areas, and development of formal signage to direct users to the new trail system. When the project is complete, probably sometime in 2005, maps of the trail system will be available at the Visitor Center.

The South and North Table Mountains were formed by volcanoes more than 63 million years ago. For more information on these incredible landmarks go to the Table Mountains Conservation Fund, Inc. at <http://www.tablemountains.org/index.htm>



Quick Tip:

Have Green, Will Travel

Do you stay at "environmentally friendly" hotels? Do you ever take alternative modes of transportation when traveling? If not, you should check out the Union of Concerned Scientists Website: http://www.ucsusa.org/publications/green_tips.cfm?publicationID=843. This link will give you tips on how to make your travel more green.

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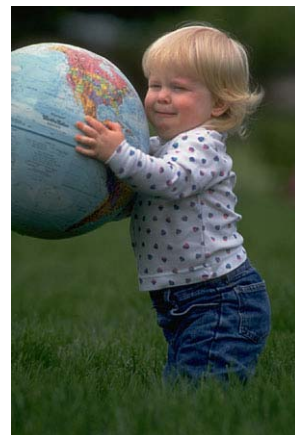
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Earth Day is on Thursday, April 22.

In an effort to bring greater awareness of this event, the Department of Environmental Health is hosting the 2004 Denver Earth Fair. The event takes place in the atrium of the Webb Municipal Building, 201 West Colfax, from April 19 through the 22 from 10AM to 2PM each day. The fair is open to the public and free of charge. Included will be interactive displays and information on the preservation of our environment.

For more information on the fair as well as other Earth Day events in Colorado, visit their website: <http://www.denvergov.org/DEH/3314445template2jump.asp>



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KUDOS

Good news on the Recycling front.

In 2002 NREL purchased 85 thousand pounds of paper but with the changeover to duplex copiers, this total number went down to 74 thousand pounds in 2003. But wait, that's only half the good news! NREL recycled 165 thousand pounds of paper in 2002 but increased their recycling efforts to 186 thousand pounds in 2003. We successfully Reduced AND Recycled more in just one year. Nice Job NREL!

Sustainable Watch

How's Your CO₂?

In the coming months, Sustainable NREL will be hosting a CO₂ footprint site on theSource. This site will be interactive and allow NREL employees to input information about their living and working habits to give them an idea of how much CO₂ they are emitting. The site also reveals how much CO₂ the Laboratory is emitting as a whole. Programs on this site will include Computer Power Management data, NREL building meter readings, a personal CO₂ calculator and much more. Sustainable NREL will notify the Laboratory when the site is up and running.

For more information, visit the Web site at http://www.nrel.gov/sustainable_nrel/